

Additional HTML Elements: HTML Fieldset and Legend Tag

Estimated time needed: 15 minutes

Special HTML Elements

In this section, you will explore two tags found within the `<form>` tag, namely the `<fieldset>` and `<legend>` tags.

Objectives

After completing this reading section, you will be able to:

1. Use the `<fieldset>` tag appropriately in HTML pages
2. Use the `<legend>` tag to decorate your fieldset

HTML fieldset tag

- The HTML `<fieldset>` tag is found within the `<form>` tag and is used to group related elements in an HTML form, often by enclosing them within a box.
- There is no restriction to the kind of elements that can be inside a fieldset, but they are mostly used to group related input type of elements, as shown in the example below.
- The fieldset element is especially useful in large forms, where readability and ease of access can be improved with segmentation. Browsers will most likely render a frame around the grouped controls.

Syntax

```
<fieldset> Contents... </fieldset>
```

Attributes

1. **disabled:** It specifies that the elements belonging to the fieldset should be disabled.
2. **form:** It specifies the id of the form that the fieldset is to be considered a part of.
3. **name:** It specifies the name for the fieldset.

Example

In the first example we will create a form with two fieldsets separating personal and professional details:

```
<!DOCTYPE html>
<html>
  <body>
    <h1>The fieldset element</h1>
    <form>
      <fieldset name="personal_details">
        <label for="fname">First name:</label>
        <input type="text" id="fname" name="fname"><br>
        <label for="lname">Last name:</label>
        <input type="text" id="lname" name="lname"><br>
        <label for="email">Email:</label>
        <input type="email" id="email" name="email"><br>
        <label for="phone">Phone Number:</label>
        <input type="tel" id="phone" name="phone"><br>
      </fieldset>
      <br>
      <fieldset name="professional_details">
        <label for="occupation">Occupation:</label>
        <input type="text" id="occupation" name="occupation"><br>
        <label for="company">Company:</label>
        <input type="text" id="company" name="company"><br>
        <label for="start">Start Date:</label>
        <input type="date" id="start" name="start"><br>
        <label for="end">End Date:</label>
        <input type="date" id="end" name="end"><br>
      </fieldset>
      <br>
      <input type="submit" value="Submit">
    </form>
  </body>
</html>
```

Output

The fieldset element

First name:


Last name:


Email:

Phone Number:

Occupation:

Company:

Start Date: 

End Date: 

Submit

HTML legend tag

A **fieldset** can additionally have a title or name, which can be provided by **legend**.

The **<legend>** tag is used with the **<fieldset>** element as a first child (the first inner tag) to define the caption for the grouped related fields. By using the **<legend>** tag with **<fieldset>** elements, it is easy to understand the purpose of grouped form elements.

Example

To understand the **<legend>** tag, let's add this tag to the above example and see the output:

```
<!DOCTYPE html>
<html>
  <body>
    <h1>The fieldset element</h1>
    <form>
      <fieldset name="personal_details">
        <legend>Personal Details</legend>
        <label for="fname">First name:</label>
        <input type="text" id="fname" name="fname"><br>
        <label for="lname">Last name:</label>
        <input type="text" id="lname" name="lname"><br>
        <label for="email">Email:</label>
        <input type="email" id="email" name="email"><br>
        <label for="phone">Phone Number:</label>
        <input type="tel" id="phone" name="phone"><br>
      </fieldset>
      <br>
      <fieldset name="professional_details">
        <legend>Professional Details</legend>
        <label for="occupation">Occupation:</label>
        <input type="text" id="occupation" name="occupation"><br>
        <label for="company">Company:</label>
        <input type="text" id="company" name="company"><br>
        <label for="start">Start Date:</label>
        <input type="date" id="start" name="start"><br>
        <label for="end">End Date:</label>
        <input type="date" id="end" name="end"><br>
      </fieldset>
      <br>
      <input type="submit" value="Submit">
    </form>
  </body>
```

Output

The fieldset element

Personal Details

First name:

Last name:

Email:


Phone Number:

Professional Details

Occupation:

Company:

Start Date: 

End Date: 

Submit

Congratulations! You have completed the exercise.

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